WHAT IS CLAIMED

1. A method in a communication device, comprising:

transmitting a signaling connection establishment message on a radio connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message;

receiving a registration accept message on the radio connection; and

transmitting an uplink signaling message on the radio connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the uplink signaling message comprises a non-access stratum signaling message.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the uplink signaling message includes a domain identity.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the domain identity comprises at least one of a packet switched domain indicator and a circuit switched domain indicator.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the signaling connection establishment message comprises an initial core network signaling message.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the registration request message includes a desired core network operator identifier.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the registration accept message includes an assigned core network operator identifier.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the core network operator identifier comprises a public land mobile network identity including a mobile country code and a mobile network code.

9. A method in a mobile communication device, comprising:

receiving a system information broadcast message;

requesting a radio connection;

receiving a grant of a radio connection;

transmitting a signaling connection establishment message on the radio connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message;

receiving a registration accept message on the radio connection; and

transmitting an uplink signaling message on the radio connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the uplink signaling message comprises a non-access stratum signaling message.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the signaling connection establishment message comprises an initial core network signaling message.

12. A method for routing messages in a network, comprising:

receiving radio connection request message;

sending a radio connection grant message;

receiving a signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message;

sending a registration accept message; and

receiving an uplink signaling message, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier.

13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising determining whether the mobile communication device can receive a core network operator identifier in a registration accept message.

14. The method according to claim 12, further comprising sending a registration denial message, the registration denial message including a forbidden core network operator identifier.

15. The method according to claim 12, further comprising sending a radio system broadcast message.

16. The method according to claim 12, wherein the uplink signaling message comprises a non-access stratum signaling message.

17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the uplink signaling message includes a domain identity.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the domain identity comprises at least one of a packet switched domain indicator and a circuit switched domain indicator.

19. The method according to claim 12, wherein the signaling connection establishment message comprises an initial core network signaling message.

20. The method according to claim 12, wherein the registration request message includes a desired core network operator identifier.

21. The method according to claim 12, wherein the registration accept message includes an assigned core network operator identifier.

22. The method according to claim 12, wherein the core network operator identifier comprises a public land mobile network identity including a mobile country code and a mobile network code.

23. The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

forwarding the non-access stratum signaling message to a first core network operator when the non-access stratum signaling message is a circuit switched message; and

forwarding the forwarding the non-access stratum signaling message to a second core network operator when the non-access stratum signaling message is a packet switched message.

24. A mobile communication device, comprising:

a transceiver;

a controller coupled to the transceiver, the controller configured to control the operations of the mobile communication device; and

a signaling message module coupled to the controller, the signaling message module configured to transmit a signaling connection establishment message on a radio connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message, receive a registration accept message on the radio connection, and transmit an uplink signaling message on the radio connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier.

25. The mobile communication device according to claim 24, wherein the uplink signaling message comprises a non-access stratum signaling message and a domain identity, the domain identity comprising at least one of a packet switched domain indicator and a circuit switched domain indicator.

26. The mobile communication device according to claim 25, wherein the signaling connection establishment message comprises an initial core network signaling message.

27. A method for routing messages in a network, comprising:

receiving radio connection request message;

sending a radio connection grant message;

receiving a signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message;

selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks to process the registration message; and

sending a registration accept message.

28. The method in claim 27, wherein the selecting step includes,

selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks in a random manner.

29. he method in claim 27, wherein the selecting step includes,

selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks in a round robin manner.

30. The method in claim 27, wherein the selecting step includes,

selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks for an indicated domain identity.

31. A method in a mobile communication device, comprising:

receiving a system information broadcast message;

transmitting a signaling connection establishment message, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message;

receiving a registration accept message; and

transmitting an uplink signaling message, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier.

32. The method according to claim 31, wherein the uplink signaling message includes a domain identity, the domain identity comprising at least one of a packet switched domain indicator and a circuit switched domain indicator.

33. A method in a communication device, comprising:

transmitting a signaling connection establishment message on a connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message;

receiving a registration accept message on the connection; and

transmitting an uplink signaling message on the connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier.

34. The method according to claim 33, wherein the uplink signaling message comprises a non-access stratum signaling message.

35. The method according to claim 34, wherein the uplink signaling message includes a domain identity.

36. The method according to claim 35, wherein the domain identity comprises at least one of a packet switched domain indicator and a circuit switched domain indicator.

37. The method according to claim 36, wherein the signaling connection establishment message comprises an initial core network signaling message.

38. The method according to claim 33, wherein the registration request message includes a desired core network operator identifier.

39. The method according to claim 33, wherein the registration accept message includes an assigned core network operator identifier.